New Thermal at Calcutta Airport

1497. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) by when the new terminal building at Calcutta Airport is likely to be completed;

(b) what has been the total project cost and how is it being financed; and

(c) how many passengers would be handled by this new terminal?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHD. KHAN): (a) to (c) The New International Terminal at Calcutta Airport with an estimated outlay of Rs. 19.58 crores and designed for a peak-hour handling capacity of 1425 passengers and annual handling capacity of 7.05 lakh passengers is scheduled to be completed by May, 1992. The project will be funded by IAAI out of their own resources.

Soviet know-how to control fire in mines

1498. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any offer from the Soviet Union in the matter of providing the know-how to control fire in mines; and

(b) if so, what are the details of the terms and conditions of the offer and what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHD. KHAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Soviet side had offered a technology known as 'grouting technology' for control of a section of fire at Mukunda block of Bharat Coking Coal Limited on an experimental basis. The grouting technology consists of drilling bore-holes along the periphery of the fire and injecting them with special heat resistant grouts thereby isolating the fire. This technology has not been tried for controlling mine fires anywhere but is used for other applications like reduction of water percolation etc. As the Soviet side was not in a position to fully guarantee the success of this technology in controlling fire, its introduction is not contemplated at present.

Increase in the frequency of aircraft and helicopter crash

1499. SHRI J.P. JAVALI:
SHRI MIRZA IRSHADBAIG:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been an increase in the frequency of aircraft and helicopter crash during the last three years;

(b) if so, what is the number of such accidents and the details of loss of human lives and property as a result thereof;

(c) whether inquiries ordered into the accidents have been completed and the reports published; and

(d) what corrective measures have been taken to avoid such accidents?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHD. KHAN): (a) and (b) The details of accidents to all civil registered aircraft in India during the last three years is given below:

Sl. No.	Year	Total No. of aircraft accidents (Fatalities in brackets)	Total No. of helicopter accidents (Fatalities in brackets)
1	1987	7(Nil)	3 (Nil)
2	1988	16 (171)	5 (17)
3	1989	4 (14)	4 (10)
4	1990	4 (92)	Nil (Nil)

In case of scheduled operators aircraft are insured and the loss of aircraft is only notional.

(c) Investigation have been completed in 36 cases and 28 reports have been accepted for public release.

(d) Based on the findings and recommendations contained in the investigation report, directions are issued by DGCA to prevent such accidents in future. Government also periodically reviews action taken.

Use of Plastics in Agriculture

@1500. DR. NARREDDY THULASI REDDY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that plastic culture, i.e. the use of plastic in agriculture, may well signal major revolution in the farm sector; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) and (b) The use of plastics in agriculture, termed as plasticulture, is the latest technique for better management of water resources and increasing agricultural productivity. The various plasticulture applications have been identified, such as plastic films for lining of canals, ponds and reservoirs etc. to eliminate seepage; drip irrigation system for optimum use of water leading to increased yield; packaging of fruits and vegetables in plastic crates thereby saving forest resources; and use of plastic film for outdoor storage of foodgrain. The other important plasticulture applications are nursery bags for seedlings, plastic greenhouses, mulching with plasticfilm, plastic microspringlers, plastic pipes, etc.

@Previously Unstarred Question 1336 transferred from the 23rd March, 1990.

पान मसाला के हानिकारक प्रभावों के संबंध में अध्ययन

1501. **श्री राम जेठमलानी :**
सरदार जगजीत सिंह अरोड़ा :

क्या स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण मंत्री 7 मार्च, 1989 को राज्य सभा में अतारांकित प्रश्न 1349 के दिए गए उत्तर को दर्शाएंगे और यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या पान मसाला के विभिन्न ब्रांडों के संबंध में नियंत्रित रोग विज्ञानीय अध्ययन पूरा कर लिया गया है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इसका ब्यौरा क्या है ; और

(ग) सरकार की इस पर क्या प्रतिक्रिया है ?

स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण मंत्री (श्री नीलमणि राउतराय) : (क) से (ग) राष्ट्रीय व्यावसायिक स्वास्थ्य संस्थान, (भारतीय आयुर्विज्ञान अनुसंधान परिषद) अहमदाबाद द्वारा पान मसाले का रासायनिक विश्लेषण किया जा रहा है। विश्लेषण का ब्यौरा अनुपत्र में दिया गया है । [**देखिए परिशिष्ट 153, अनुपत्र सं० 65**] राष्ट्रीय व्यावसायिक स्वास्थ्य संस्थान, अहमदाबाद में पान मसाले के प्रतिनिधि ब्रांड के प्रायोगिक मूल्यांकन का कार्य चल रहा है । भारतीय आयुर्विज्ञान अनुसंधान परिषद के अनुसार, अब तक किए गए अध्ययनों से यह अनुमान लगाया जा सकता है कि पान मसाले में शायद इसके संघटकों अर्थात् सुपारी, कत्था के कारण मुख का कैंसर हो सकता है । सरकार का यह प्रस्ताव है कि पान मसाले के प्रत्येक पैकेट और इससे संबंधित विज्ञापन पर निम्नलिखित चेतावनी साफ अक्षरों में लिखी जाए, अर्थात् —

"प्रतिदिन 4 ग्राम से अधिक पान मसाले का सेवन हानिकारक हो सकता है।"